

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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When Bryan was asked to go to Cuba to act as a policeman he resigned. That was not what he enlisted for.

This nation, in all its past history, has never recognized the right of conquest. Shall we declare that principle now?

We cannot have the glory of humanitarianism and at the same time cling to the base prize of conquest and plunder of helpless people.

Senator Stewart announces that he has sold the Silver Knight Watchman. He says that it passes into the hands of "those who will carry it forward on the lines to which I have always adhered."

If some of the democratic papers that are so fond of saying Bryan received 6,500,000 "democratic" votes will just drop "democratic" out of that sentence, it will increase their reputation as truth tellers.

Dewey made a large order on Washington last week. He made out and forwarded a requisition for a statesman. McKinley was forced to cable in reply that the administration had nothing of the kind on hand.

By courtesy the citizens of Omaha have heretofore been called "Omahaans." Since they persist in running their opposition another year against the protest of the whole state, they are by common consent called "Omahogs."

The spirit of imperialism was never so well expressed as by Murat Halstead: "America with the archipelagos of Asia under her feet." What would the men who laid the foundations of this government have thought of a sentiment like that?

Let the populist papers do justice to every man. General Miles does not favor the increase of the standing army to 100,000 men. His estimate is 60,000. It is McKinley who wants 100,000 regulars to fight the battles of the capitalists against organized labor.

There are a few Mad Mulahs roving over the plains of Nebraska. They are just as mad as those who have been troubling the English on the head waters of the Nile. Those in Nebraska imagine they are the special messengers of God sent to save the populist party.

All the laws and all the constitutions that can be made will bring no relief until we have the right kind of men to enforce them. What this state needs more than anything else is men—men who will stand for the right, who cannot be bought, who cannot be deceived. The prayer should go up from every farmer's home: "Give us more men." We have been cursed with things.

Murat Halstead seems to be preparing himself to take a position as a professor of dogmatic theology in some sectarian college. In the preface to his book about the Philippines recently issued he says: "It was foreordained since the beginning, when God created the earth, that we, the possessors of this imperial American zone, should be the great Asiatic power." Halstead must have been of very intimate terms with the Creator to be able to announce in such and unqualified manner what was "ordained" so long ago. Halstead is a newspaper man and it is rather strange that he did not give the interview between himself and the Creator in full.

Whenever the republican leaders want to start out a lie they print it in the State Journal and then it goes on and on forever. One day not long ago it stated that the populists would come to the legislature with \$200,000 deficiencies. The lie was outrageous that it had to take it back the next day. It had, however, accomplished all that was intended by starting it going. The country republican liars are still repeating it. Last week the Stanton Picket said:

"The popocratic state officials who but a couple of months ago made economy and reform their campaign cry, are now preparing their gall and rascal organs to ask for a \$200,000 deficiency in the running expenses of the state institutions."

The remainder of these are doing likewise. To edit a weekly republican paper requires an unlimited amount of lying.

A MISTAKEN POP.

A populist member of the legislature was telling this editor of some of the doings of the republicans in the recent campaign out in his county. He said they ran their whole campaign on lies. They declared that so much money had been received for taxes on account of the McKinley prosperity that Meserve, besides paying off a small part of the state debt, had hundreds of thousands of dollars deposited in banks on which he was drawing interest for his own benefit. They denied that the expenses of the state had been cut down and declared that all the institutions were being run in the most extravagant way. In fact he didn't believe that they could tell the truth if they tried.

The INDEPENDENT editor insisted that he was mistaken, but he insisted that they had lied so long and so persistently that it was impossible for them to tell the truth. He was then taken into the Lindell hotel and told to listen. A little group of republicans near the door were discussing Thomson. They all declared that Thomson was nothing but a money seeker, robbing the people with his gas and electric light franchises and utterly unfit to occupy any office of trust whatever, and to aspire to the United States senate was an insult to the whole state. Another little group was declaring that Webster was nothing but a white-washed dude, who had no more idea of what the people of this state wanted than the man in the moon. Besides that he had greatly damaged the party in the state by declaring that the cheaper wheat was the better it was for the people of this state. Another group declared that Rosewater was a disgrace to the state. For the last thirty years his principle business had been to slander and vilify every man in the state who would not submit to his dictation—that if he were elected senator, no man in the whole party would be safe from his venom. Judge Field was denounced by another group as too small a man to fill the place. He had allowed Bryan to defeat him in a district where there was 3,000 republican majority and if he were sent to Washington, Field would be the smallest toad in the puddle, the state would have no influence and nobody could get anything. The other candidates were named about in the same way.

When the old pup got outside again, he was asked what he thought about the ability of the republicans to tell the truth when they wanted to. He replied: "I give it up. I was mistaken. I see that when a republican really tries he can tell the truth in even more vigorous language than the average pop. Every one of them were telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

A SOCIALIST EXHIBIT.

The editor of the Dakota Ruralist says: "THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT says in commenting on a recent editorial in the Ruralist that 'there is not a socialist plank in the populist platform and never has been.' Probably the editor of the INDEPENDENT would not know a 'socialist plank' if he met it in the road."

In that item shines forth the true spirit of socialism. Wherever this writer has met them, that is the way they talk. Let a dozen of them get together in discussion and it will not be many minutes until they will be denouncing each other as traitors, bribe takers and paid tools of the capitalists. The editor of the INDEPENDENT may not know what socialism is, but he has read over three hundred volumes of their standard literature from Carl Marx down to the drivel of the present day socialist of New York. He takes and reads six socialist papers, including the Dakota Ruralist. If he can believe what these socialist writers say, then it is true that there is not a socialist plank in the populist platform.

The very base of socialism is the destruction of the private ownership of property. It is voiced in their platform in the following words: "We demand the public (or collective) ownership of all the means of production and distribution." That is not populism. Populism demands the public ownership of public utilities. It does not demand that a central government shall undertake to manage all the farms, manufacture all the needles and thread, cook all the meals of 70,000,000 of people. Populism does not teach that there should be a central government that shall say to one man: you black boots, to another you make needles, to another, you be a president of a college. The difference between populism and socialism is wider than the sea. The editor of the INDEPENDENT is a populist, not a socialist.

DEVOTION TO BARBARISM.

A recent bulletin issued by the labor bureau at Washington states that the amount of gold brought out of the Klondike region during the last year was about \$9,000,000, and the expenses of the gold seekers had amounted to \$35,000,000. As long as the people insist that we must have a metallic currency, this sort of waste must go on. The more than 200,000 men who have gone to the Klondike could have, under a reasonable economic policy, been engaged in the creation of real wealth. Thousands of these vigorous wealth producers lie dead at the bottom of frozen rivers or their bones bleach on the arctic glaciers. The only good that comes from their sufferings and death is

that they have added a very little to the money in circulation and by that much have stopped the ruinous fall in prices. But the same result would have come from the issue of the same amount of legal tender greenbacks. Can any sane man doubt it? We have broken up families, we have sundered the most sacred ties and sent some of the best blood of the nation to die in the frozen wastes of the far north to obtain a metal to use as money, when every function that it performs could as well or better be performed by another substance that costs nothing. The bleaching bones of ten thousand men testify to our devotion to barbarism.

A WORD WANTED.

About two years ago a distinguished university professor was delivering a lecture in which he frequently used the word "socialism." One in the audience at last arose and asked the professor to define socialism so that the audience would know what he was talking about. The professor hesitated for a moment and then said: "I see the difficulty which has arisen in the gentleman's mind. It is one that has often troubled me. The truth is, we need a new word in the English language to describe a new system that has come into existence within the last few years. The ownership of a public franchise by a city where the employe is hired and paid a salary, who is free to quit at any time and to spend his money as he may see fit, is not the system advocated by Carl Marx or any recognized socialistic authority. For want of a word I have called it socialism. I accept the implied criticism as being just and well merited. But what word shall I use?"

It was afterwards suggested to the professor that he call this new system "populism." It is a new system and it has grown a great deal faster than the populist party has grown. It is pervading every section of the land and has a strong foothold in every nation on the face of the earth. The ownership of public utilities by the state is the very essence of populism. But that is another system altogether from the ownership of "all the means of production and distribution" advocated by the social labor party and all the standard socialistic writers. It is so different that the two are essentially antagonistic. The old socialism is sometimes called "collectivism." If they would adopt that term and stick to it, then a populist might be excused if he said he was a socialist. Now he puts himself outside the party by so declaring.

A MAGAZINE SURPRISE.

Two Boston magazines were great surprises this month. They seem to have changed sides. The Atlantic Monthly, which has been the organ of all that was conservative—bound to the policies of government that have concentrated most of the wealth of the United States in the hands of the men who reside along the shores of the Hudson, with scattering colonies all through New England—in its leading article gives the first full literary expression to the principles of the populist party. The author is perfectly unconscious of the fact, and never intended to give expression to populism, which only goes to make his writing more effective. If some one should go into the office of the proprietors and tell them that article was populism pure and undefiled, they would not believe it, so little does the east know what those principles are.

On the other hand, the Arena under its new management seems lost to us. There is not an article in it that has the right ring to it, while everywhere there are signs that it is going over to the enemy. It has made a consolidation with all the crank magazines of the country and hereafter it will be burdened, more than ever, with the fads and fancies of the spiritualists, theosophists, telepathists, mind curers and faith curers. In some places it is outspoken for the gold standard, as for instance on page 547 where this passage occurs: "The financial struggle of the autumn of 1896 and the victory for honest money was a victory for the whole people. The cause that won, the honor that was preserved, and the confidence that was renewed in us as a nation throughout the world belong to all the people." The Arena will never lack for funds hereafter, for it has gone over to the side that has plenty of money to support all its periodicals. But reformers will have no further use for it.

THE STATE COMMITTEE.

At the last meeting of the executive state committee it was resolved to begin the next campaign right now. The state headquarters will be kept open and Mr. Giffen will be in charge. All populists will be given a hearty welcome at the rooms in the Lincoln hotel. Organization will be taken up immediately and effort made to raise a campaign fund that will enable us to make a poll of the state so as to find out who are populists, who can be called upon for assistance at any time and who are indifferent and need looking after. The price of liberty is eternal vigilance. We must never let up but keep forever at it. We call the man a patriot who will leave wife and children and face the dangers of battle, siege and camp for his country, and so he is. But so also is the man who patiently, year after year works and studies to preserve these liberties for our children.

THERE MUST BE A WAY.

The judicial is one of the three departments of our government, and if the government fails in any one of its departments it fails in all. During the last few years many thoughtful men have had fears that the very foundations of liberty were being slowly undermined by decisions of the courts. They have taken away from congress the right of taxation in its most important form, they have taken away the right of legislation to control the public highways, they have nullified the most important provisions of the state constitutions where the constitutions have by express provision granted the right to control railway charges. They have declared it impossible for the public to protect itself against the most outrageous robbery by corporations, and granted to these corporations greater power to oppress than was ever exercised by a feudal lord of the middle ages.

Here is a list of the corporations, securities and miles of street railway involved in Chicago's present fight:

Table with 3 columns: Bonds, Stocks, Miles. Rows include Chicago City Ry., West Chicago Ry., North Chicago Ry., etc.

With the right of way costing them nothing, every man knows that the capitalization of a street railway for over \$90,000 a mile and the collection of fares to pay interest on such capitalization is nothing but robbery. It is forcing the public who patronize the road to pay interest on money that was never invested. It is the levying of a tax on a part of the people of Chicago who are least able to pay it, equivalent to the interest of \$50,000,000. In other words the people are robbed at the rate of \$450,000 annually. The courts absolutely refuse to protect the people from this robbery, and make themselves particeps criminis with the robbers.

THE BRYAN BANQUET.

Every man who attended the banquet given by the Nebraska Traveling Man's club to Mr. Bryan was greatly impressed with the power and force of each and every one of the speeches that were made on that occasion. Notwithstanding Mr. Bryan's great reputation as an orator and the expectation based upon it, every man who was there, though he had heard him often was astonished. Mr. Bryan never before spoke with the force, power and earnestness that he spoke that night. It is no use to try to quote sentences or to try to describe it all in an indescribable. Every sentence sank into the heart of the listeners. It was a plea for government by the consent of the governed. When he said that he had protested against the enforcing of alien laws upon this country in 1896, he asked with a seriousness that produced a solemn effect: "How could I meet my God if I should now advocate the enforcing of alien laws upon the helpless people of the Orient?" The members of the reform forces were never more full of hope or more ready to fight and sacrifice for their principles than they are today.

McKinley says that wherever the flag goes, there it must stay. That is, the flag stands for conquest. In the better days of the republic before the money power debauched the public by the purchase of the press, we were accustomed to say that our glorious flag stood for liberty and equality. But so debased has the following of the republican party become, if McKinley should say that the flag stood for plunder and robbery, every one of them would declare that it did. The mass of ignorance and prejudice that has assembled under the leadership of Mark Hanna is a danger to the whole world.

Much of the drain upon this country comes from the marriages of the daughters of millionaires to foreign counts, lords and dukes. In every such marriage there is settled a large amount of money upon the foreign marriage. The result of it is that many millions of dollars must be sent every year to Europe to support those titled gentlemans. Did we in our youth ever expect to see the day when hundreds of thousands of Americans would be forced to toil from morning until night to support the lords and dukes of England, France, and Germany? Well we see it now. That is one of the things that the ignorant

masses that form the republican party brag about. Those masses, buried by the guiding hand of Mark Hanna against the fundamental principles of our government as laid down by Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln, are a menace to civilization.

Father Snyder complains that the type setters played smash with his article by setting up "never" for "now." Father Snyder should brush up on his theology. In the consens he will find it written that types are "totally depraved" and that they were the original cause of "original sin." The only way an editor keeps sane is by a firm adherence to the doctrine of "foreordination." What is to be will be, and there is no use kicking.

All the talk about the bullion value of silver by the goldites is mere hypocrisy. They don't care any more for the value of the bullion in the dollar than do the populists. If they did, they would have demonetized gold instead of silver in 1873, for at that time silver was at a premium over gold. The claim that they are opposed to silver because the value of the bullion in the dollar is only fifty cents, is mere rot with which they hope to deceive the people. What they are concerned about is the purchasing power of the dollar. That is the only interest they have in the dollar. If they can keep that purchasing power growing, they know that they will soon own the whole world.

When the question of rates is before the courts, the magnates will appear in all their glory and swear that their roads are worth a hundred thousand thousand dollars a mile and that rates made on any valuation less than that would be confiscation. Then the courts gravely announce: "That is all true," and fix the rates accordingly. When the question of taxation is before the courts, these same magnates just as cheerfully swear that their roads are worth almost nothing at all and that to tax them would be confiscation. Then the courts gravely announce, "that is all true," and the magnates go away with a very high opinion of the sanctity of the courts. And the pop says: "There is something about these courts that no fellow can find out."

The conditions surrounding this nation at the present time seem to be such as to force the United States government to adopt one of the principles of populism. The Nicaragua canal is a necessity, not for the expansion of commerce only, but for the defense of the nation. The common sense of the American people will yet force the government to build and own it. When it does, that will be a tremendous advance of populist principles. The theory of the public ownership of public utilities will then have national sanction and by natural evolution will grow until the public highways, the telegraphs and telephones will all become public property. If it were not for adopting republican logic, we should say that it was "manifest destiny," or "the evident will of providence."

Mark Hanna made more use of the newspaper in his campaign than any national chairman ever did before. The result was so satisfactory that in the propagation of his plan to subsidize American ships he is working the newspaper field with more vigor than ever before. Every editorial room is flooded with articles "printed on one side only," ready for insertion. Some of them are very amusing. Mark is engaged in twisting the tail of the British lion with very great vigor just at present. His horror at British greed is terrible. But it won't do Mark. You can't fool populists that way. Take your tariff from iron and steel and sell them to American ship builders at the same price you sell them to Russia and England and the ships will be built all right without any subsidy.

REPUBLICAN SLAVES.

We are told that the white slaves of olden times used to get together and boast of the wealth of their masters and even dispute over it until they came to blows. We look with pity or contempt upon them and denounce them for not fighting for their liberty, that is, we used to, but of late years we have changed. Now we often hear poor, ignorant, partisan-biased republicans shouting aloud the praises of their party because under its guidance hundreds of millionaires have been produced who hold thousands and tens of thousands of human beings in an industrial slavery as cruel and oppressive as ever was known in the days of the Roman emperors. No race of slaves ever freed themselves. If the industrial slaves of this later republic ever obtain their freedom, it must be wrought out for them by those who are at least partially free. The slaves of the republican party who boast of their servitude will never render any aid. They, like the slaves of old, will fight for their masters.

Municipal Ownership and Taxes. The municipal operation of the street railways of Dover, England, has enabled the city to reduce the tax rate two-pence in the pound. The town began the construction of the system in 1896.

Read the INDEPENDENT 1 year, \$1.00.

A DIFFERENCE.

The men who are so fond of saying that "the government should do nothing which any other agency can do as well," should take time to complete the sentence and not cut it off just there. The remainder of it is of much more importance. It is: "Anything that the government can do better than any other agency should always and everywhere be done by the government." The transportation of the whole nation could be much better done by the government than by any other agency and should be immediately taken in control. So with the service rendered by the telephones and telegraphs, the express business and the building of the Nicaragua canal. The difference between populism and socialism is that populists would have the government own and control all those things that it can manage better than private parties and private ownership of all those things that can best be managed by private parties, while socialists would have everything owned and managed by a central government.

HARDY'S COLUMN.

Teachers' State Meeting - Kansas Pops, Home Mortgages, Banquet, Assess and Tax Notes and Mortgages - New Democracy - Another Credit Strengthening Act.

It is hoped for the general interest and advancement of education that the State Teachers' association, in annual meeting, nominate and elect their officers in open meeting. Better adopt the old New York plan. Hear all the nominations and then vote, and the one having the largest number of votes on the second ballot to be declared elected. Teachers and preachers are fast becoming politicians and wire pullers.

We think the Kansas pops cut a dog into when they called an extra session of their legislature after being licked at the ballot box. The people and not party should be the motive power. The people will not go back on a party as long as the party acts for the people, but when the leaders act for their own pockets they ought to be turned down. Kansas and Nebraska are on the high road to good government as long as a few hundred votes will change party control.

The law passed two years ago cutting off all deficiency judgment after a mortgage sale has been made is an advance law in the right direction. One more law in the same direction is needed; that of exempting homes from mortgage as well as from judgments. Mortgages on homes ought not to be legal, nor should they be allowed on record. Let us have more free homes. A sale on mortgage is as bad as sale on judgment.

We attended the traveling men's banquet because Bryan was to be the king of the feast. When two hundred and fifty men jump up and yell at the mention of his name it is well to conclude that Bryanism is not dead yet nor sleeping. The tables were splendidly set and decorated with flowers. The viands were the most palatable found between the oceans. Nothing stronger than coffee and cigars were served. No one present will question the strength of the cigars. We felt like a smoked ham for two days. Nevertheless we stuck 'er through till 4 o'clock, because the best of the food was the last of the feast, Bryan's speech. We saw no signs of the "lockjaw" or "military strut" and to all appearance in action and word he is the same warm friend of the common people. No wonder the corporations, trusts and millionaires turn a cold shoulder on him; he is not of them or for them. The same eastern fellows ridiculed Lincoln and yet many common people joined with them as they do now against Bryan. There is more patriotism today in Nebraska than in New York and more intelligence. Selfish snobbery rules the east. They are able to put on style by dictating all our laws in their own interest to our loss.

We believe that all the property, farms, notes and mortgages on which a profit, income or interest is derived in the state of Nebraska should be taxed equally, according to selling value, for the support of state government. No matter if the owner of a farm or mortgage lives in another state, the property should be taxed here where profit is derived. We ought to have a law requiring the owner of every note and every mortgage to file a list of his credits with the assessor for taxation and all such obligations not so filed should become non collectible by law. It would not be ex post facto to require all such obligations now outstanding to be listed by the first day of next April. We have a United States law now making all such written obligations void unless the United States tax has been paid and a stamp is attached as evidence of payment. No matter if the owner of a Nebraska mortgage does pay taxes in another state, he should be made to first pay taxes here. But

Food Caused Pain

Catastrophe of the Stomach Cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"I was taken sick about a year ago with catarrh of the stomach. At times I would have a ravinous appetite and at other times could not eat. My food caused me excruciating pain. I was running down so fast I had to stop work. My friends urged me to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. I did so and soon began to feel better. The disagreeable symptoms of disease gradually passed away and flesh and strength returned. I owe it all to Hood's Sarsaparilla." MARY L. CURRIE, North Brookfield, Mass. Remember Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best - is fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1.00 per bottle.

Hood's Pills cure liver, may be taken, easy to operate.